

I hereby certify that this correspondence is being deposited with the United States Postal Service as first class mail in an envelope addressed to: Commissioner of Patents and Trademarks, Washington, D.C. 20231, on 7/20/99

PATENT

By Denise M. Valters

Attorney Docket No. 018547-018570US

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re application of:

Gingeras et al.

Examiner: Not Assigned

Serial No.: 09/285,306

Art Unit: 1643

Filed: April 2, 1999

PRELIMINARY AMENDMENT

For: MYCOBACTERIAL RpoB
SEQUENCES



Commissioner of Patents and Trademarks
Washington, D.C. 20231

Sir:

Prior to examination of the above-referenced application, please enter the following amendments and remarks.

IN THE CLAIMS

Please amend the claims as follows. Unamended pending claims are reproduced in small type for ease of reference.

1. A nucleic acid comprising at least 50 contiguous bases from an rpoB sequence shown in Table 1.

2. The nucleic acid of claim 1 comprising a complete rpoB sequence shown in Table 1.

3. A set of probes perfectly complementary to and spanning a full-length sequence shown in Table 1.

4. A method of classifying a mycobacteria, comprising providing a sample comprising a mycobacterial rpoB target nucleic acid from a mycobacteria;

determining the sequence of a segment of at least 50 contiguous bases from the target nucleic acid;